

Visitation Frequency

Best practice research indicates that visitation frequency should correspond to the child's age and developmental stage and be consistent with the family's permanency goal. The visitation frequency in the chart below pertain to face-to-face visits and are recommended but not mandatory.

Age	Frequency/Duration of Visits
0 – 6 Months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily visits are optimal. • Families should visit at least three times a week for 30-60 minutes. • During this developmental period, the focus should be on short, frequent visits.
6 – 12 Months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families should visit at least three times a week for one hour. • Children in this developmental period begin to attach to caregivers. Therefore, visits should be scheduled so as to verify the parent as the child's primary caregiver.
1 – 4 Years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families should visit at least twice a week for 1 1/2 hours. • Separation during this timeframe can create developmental problems for the child. Potential separation anxiety necessitates frequent visits for a longer duration to affirm the parent's role as primary caregiver. • All desires from verbal children should be solicited and considered.
5 – 12 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families should visit at least once a week for two or more hours. • Children in this developmental stage can tolerate more time between visits. • Note that once the child starts school, the visitation plan should be expanded so that the parent can attend school/community-based activities as well.
13 – 15 Years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families should visit at least once a week for two or more hours. • The Team must take into consideration the child's desires.
15 – 18 Years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No recommendation regarding the specific frequency/duration of visits. • Child's desires should be strongly considered in creating the FVP.